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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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C O R R E C T E D COPY (OMISSION PARA 2)

E. O.11652; N/ A
TAGS: OCON, TSPA, XT

SUBJECT: U. S.- EUROPEAN NEGOTIATION ON POST- APOLLO
COOPERATION, MAY 3-4.

1. SUMMARY: IN US- EUROPEAN NEGOTIATION IN WASHINGTON
ON MAY 3-4 TWO SIDES REACHED SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT
AD REFERENDUM ON TEXT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
TO PROVIDE FOR EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT OF A SPACE LAB (SL)
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AS PART OF SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM. MAJOR POINTS WHICH THE EUROPEAN DELEGATION STILL RESERVE FOR DISCUSSION OR COMMENT ARE: (A) EXTENT OF EUROPEAN VOICE IN DETERMINATION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR COMMERCIAL USE OF SL; (B) EUROPEAN DESIRE FOR U. S. COMMITMENT TO STRIVE FOR EQUIVALENT PURCHASES IN EUROPE DURING DEVELOPMENT PHASE REQUISITIONS; (C) DURATION OF AGREEMENT; AND (D) RELAXATION OF US LAUNCH ASSURANCE POLICY IN RETURN FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THIS PROJECT. ESRO PROGRAM BOARD WILL REVIEW TEXT ON MAY 23. END SUMMARY.

2. US- EUROPEAN NEGOTIATIONS ON POST- APOLLO COOPERATION HELD IN WASHINGTON, MAY 3-4, WERE FOLLOW- UP TO INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF APRIL 18 AND ESRO SPACE LAB PROGRAM BOARD

MEETING OF APRIL 25. EUROPEAN SIDE LED BY DESIGNATED SPOKESMAN TRELLA (ITALY) WITH MAJOR INPUT FROM LOOSCH(FRG). REPS FROM UK, NETHERLANDS, FRANCE, BELGIUM, SPAIN AND AND ESRO ALSO PRESENT.

3. COMPROMISE AGREEMENTS REACHED WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY ON MOST ARTICLES OF TEXT, WHICH WILL BE POUCHED TO POSTS. MAJOR ISSUES AROSE OVER ARTICLES 6, 7 AND 16 DEALING RESPECTIVELY WITH ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY, USE OF SPACE SHUTTLE AND SL, AND DURATION OF AGREEMENT.

(A) ARTICLE 6 -- AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT US WOULD GIVE CASE- BY- CASE CONSIDERATION TO REQUESTS FOR US TECHNOLOGY BEYOND THAT NECESSARY FOR SL PROGRAM. US DID NOT ACCEPT EUROPEAN DESIRE FOR US COMMITMENT TO SOME BALANCE BETWEEN EUROPEAN PURCHASES IN US AND US PURCHASES IN EUROPE DURING DEVELOPMENT PHASES.

(B) ARTICLE 7 -- COMPROMISES REACHED OVER EUROPEAN PRIORITY VIS- A- VIS THIRD COUNTRIES AND MOST ASPECTS OF USES OF SL' S. RESERVATIONS STILL REMAIN ON EXTENT OF EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN SETTING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR COMMERCIAL USE OF SL' S.

(C) ARTICLE 16 -- EUROPEANS ARGUED THAT AGREEMENT SHOULD RUN 8 YEARS AFTER FIRST SL FLIGHT TO COMPENSATE THEM FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

EXTENSIVE EFFORT IN SL DEVELOPMENT. US BELIEVES 5 YEARS AFTER FIRST SL FLIGHT (12 YEARS FROM 1973) IS AS LONG AS TECHNICAL AGREEMENT CAN REASONABLY LAST.

4. EUROPEAN DELEGATION WILL REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS ON RESULTS OF MEETING AND ON US POSITION IN AREAS WHERE TOTAL AGREEMENT NOT REACHED. ESRO SPACE LAB PROGRAM

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BOARD WILL MEET MAY 23 TO CONSIDER RESULTS OF NEGOTIATION,
RECEIVE INPUTS FROM GOVERNMENTS AND GIVE FURTHER
INSTRUCTIONS TO EUROPEAN NEGOTIATORS. BOTH SIDES AGREE
ON TARGET OF AUGUST 15 FOR SIGNATURE AS OPENING FOR
SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT. ROGERS

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